

Serial No. 09/690,872
Art Unit No. 2127

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the patent application. The Examiner has objected to Claim 16; has rejected Claims 1, 3, 5, 11 and 14-15 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Hartsell in view of Chafe; has rejected Claims 6-10 and 17-20 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Hartsell in view of Chafe and further in view of MacFarlane; and, has indicated that Claims 2, 4, 12, 13, and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, Applicants have canceled Claims 1, 3, 11, 15, and have amended Claims 2, 5-7, 12, 14, 16-17, and 19 as detailed below.

With regard to the method claims, 1-10, Applicants have canceled independent Claim 1, and amended allowable Claim 2 in independent form, including all of the limitations of Claim 1 from which it previously depended. Applicants have changed the dependency of Claims 5-7 to depend from an allowable base claim. Claim 3 has been canceled since it contains the same limitations as Claim 4.

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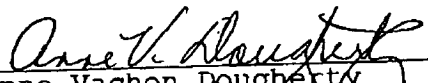
With regard to the system claims, Applicants have canceled independent Claim 11, and amended allowable Claim 12 in independent form, including all of the limitations of Claim 11 from which it previously depended. Applicants have changed the dependency of Claim 14 to properly depend from an allowable base claim.

With regard to the claims drawn to a program storage device, Applicants have canceled independent Claim 15, and amended allowable Claim 16 in independent form, including all of the limitations of Claim 15 from which it previously depended. Applicants have changed the dependency of Claims 17 and 19 to properly depend from an allowable base claim.

Applicants believe that the amendments place all of the remaining claims, Claims 2, 4-10, 12-14, and 16-20, in condition for allowance. Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration of the amended claim language in light of the remarks, and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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